IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION ATTORNEY DKT No: 5233.012.NPUS00

OF: GARNER ET AL. CONFIRMATION NO.: 5154

SERIAL NO. 10/711,155 GROUP ART UNIT: 1634

FILED: AUGUST 27, 2004 EXAMINER: SHAW, AMANDA MARIE

TITLE: METHODS FOR DETECTING AND QUANTIFYING SPECIFIC

PROBIOTIC MICROORGANISMS IN ANIMAL

Preliminary Submission

Sir,

In response to the advisory action of April 18, 2007, and further to the request for continued examination filed on May 1, 2007, Applicants respectfully request entry of the following amendments to the claims, and reconsideration of the application in view of these amendments and remarks below.